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PATENT APPLICATION
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IN THE CLAIMS

1 - 21 (Cancelled)

22. (New) A method for managing a plurality of network elements of a telecommunications network, comprising:

establishing a connection with at least two remote network entities;

monitoring the at least two remote network entities;

initiating a backup procedure for a first network entity of the at least two remote network entities to backup first configuration data, the first configuration data comprising data for the setup and configuration of the first network entity;

receiving from the first network entity the first configuration data for the first network entity; and

locally storing the first configuration data for the first network entity within a database remote from the first network entity, the database comprising configuration data for the at least two remote network entities.

23. (New) The method of Claim 22, further comprising, upon determining the first configuration data for the first network entity has become corrupted on the first network entity, transmitting to the first network entity the first configuration data for the first network entity from the database remote from the first network entity.

24. (New) The method of Claim 23, further comprising:

transmitting a request to the first network entity requesting the first network entity to transmit the first configuration data;

upon receiving from the first network entity the first configuration data for the first network entity for a third time, removing from the database the first configuration data for the first network entity received a first time; and

presenting details regarding the first configuration data for the first network entity to be transmitted to the first network entity from the database remote from the first network entity for display to a user.

25. (New) The method of Claim 24, wherein:

establishing a connection with at least two remote network entities comprises establishing a connection from a local enterprise server with at least two remote network entities;

initiating a backup procedure for a first network entity of the at least two remote network entities to backup first configuration data comprises running a Graphical User Interface (GUI) on the local enterprise server to initiate the backup procedure for the first network entity of the at least two remote network entities to backup the first configuration data;

receiving from the first network entity the first configuration data for the first network entity comprises receiving from a random access memory (RAM) device on the first network entity the first configuration data for the first network entity; and

transmitting to the first network entity the first configuration data for the first network entity from the database remote from the first network entity comprises transmitting to the RAM device on the first network entity the first configuration data for the first network entity from the database remote from the first network entity.

26. (New) The method of Claim 22, wherein receiving from the first network entity the first configuration data for the first network entity comprises receiving from the first network entity the first configuration data for the first network entity via an Open System Interconnection File Transfer Access and Management (OSI FTAM) protocol.

27. (New) The method of Claim 22, wherein receiving from the first network entity the first configuration data for the first network entity comprises receiving from the first network entity the first configuration data for the first network entity via a File Transfer Protocol (FTP).

28. (New) The method of Claim 22, wherein initiating a backup procedure for a first network entity of the at least two remote network entities to backup a first configuration data comprises initiating a backup procedure for a first network entity of the at least two

remote network entities to backup a first configuration data via a Graphical User Interface (GUI).

29. (New) The method of Claim 22, further comprising, upon receiving from the first network entity the first configuration data for the first network entity for a third time, removing from the database the first configuration data for the first network entity received a first time.

30. (New) The method of Claim 22, wherein initiating a backup procedure for the first network entity to backup a first configuration data for the first network entity comprises initiating a backup procedure for the first network entity to backup a first configuration data for the first network entity on a weekly, monthly, or one-time basis.

31. (New) The method of Claim 22, further comprising:
receiving a user log-on entry;
validating a first user based on the user log-on entry; and
receiving a request from the first user to initiate a backup procedure for the first network entity to backup a first configuration data for the first network entity on a weekly, monthly, or one-time basis.

32. (New) The method of Claim 22, wherein the first configuration data is stored within a configuration database within the first network entity.

33. (New) A system for managing a plurality of network elements of a telecommunications network, comprising a network management system operable to:

establish a connection with at least two remote network entities;

monitor the at least two remote network entities;

initiate a backup procedure for a first network entity of the at least two remote network entities to backup first configuration data, the first configuration data comprising data for the setup and configuration of the first network entity;

receive from the first network entity the first configuration data for the first network entity; and

locally store the first configuration data for the first network entity within a database remote from the first network entity, the database comprising configuration data for the at least two remote network entities.

34. (New) The system of Claim 33, wherein the network management system is further operable to, upon determining the first configuration data for the first network entity has become corrupted on the first network entity, transmit to the first network entity the first configuration data for the first network entity from the database remote from the first network entity.

35. (New) The system of Claim 34, wherein the network management system is further operable to:

transmit a request to the first network entity requesting the first network entity to transmit the first configuration data;

upon receiving from the first network entity the first configuration data for the first network entity for a third time, remove from the database the first configuration data for the first network entity received a first time; and

present details regarding the first configuration data for the first network entity to be transmitted to the first network entity from the database remote from the first network entity for display to a user.

36. (New) The method of Claim 35, wherein the network management system operable to:

establish a connection with at least two remote network entities comprises a network management system operable to establish a connection from a local enterprise server with at least two remote network entities;

initiate a backup procedure for a first network entity of the at least two remote network entities to backup first configuration data comprises a network management system operable to run a Graphical User Interface (GUI) on the local enterprise server to initiate the backup procedure for the first network entity of the at least two remote network entities to backup the first configuration data;

receive from the first network entity the first configuration data for the first network entity comprises a network management system operable to receive from a random access memory (RAM) device on the first network entity the first configuration data for the first network entity; and

transmit to the first network entity the first configuration data for the first network entity from the database remote from the first network entity comprises a network management system operable to transmit to the RAM device on the first network entity the first configuration data for the first network entity from the database remote from the first network entity.

37. (New) The system of Claim 33, wherein the network management system operable to receive from the first network entity the first configuration data for the first network entity comprises a network management system operable to receive from the first network entity the first configuration data for the first network entity via an Open System Interconnection File Transfer Access and Management (OSI FTAM) protocol.

38. (New) The system of Claim 33, wherein the network management system operable to receive from the first network entity the first configuration data for the first network entity comprises a network management system operable to receive from the first network entity the first configuration data for the first network entity via a File Transfer Protocol (FTP).

39. (New) The system of Claim 33, wherein the network management system operable to initiating a backup procedure for a first network entity of the at least two remote network entities to backup a first configuration data comprises a network management system operable to initiate a backup procedure for a first network entity of the at least two remote network entities to backup a first configuration data via a Graphical User Interface (GUI).

40. (New) The system of Claim 33, wherein the network management system is further operable to, upon receiving from the first network entity the first configuration data for the first network entity for a third time, remove from the database the first configuration data for the first network entity received a first time.

41. (New) The system of Claim 33, wherein the network management system operable to initiate a backup procedure for the first network entity to backup a first configuration data for the first network entity comprises a network management system operable to initiate a backup procedure for the first network entity to backup a first configuration data for the first network entity on a weekly, monthly, or one-time basis.

42. (New) The system of Claim 33, wherein the network management system is further operable to:

- receive a user log-on entry;
- validate a first user based on the user log-on entry; and
- receive a request from the first user to initiate a backup procedure for the first network entity to backup a first configuration data for the first network entity on a weekly, monthly, or one-time basis.

43. (New) The system of Claim 33, wherein the first configuration data is stored within a configuration database within the first network entity.